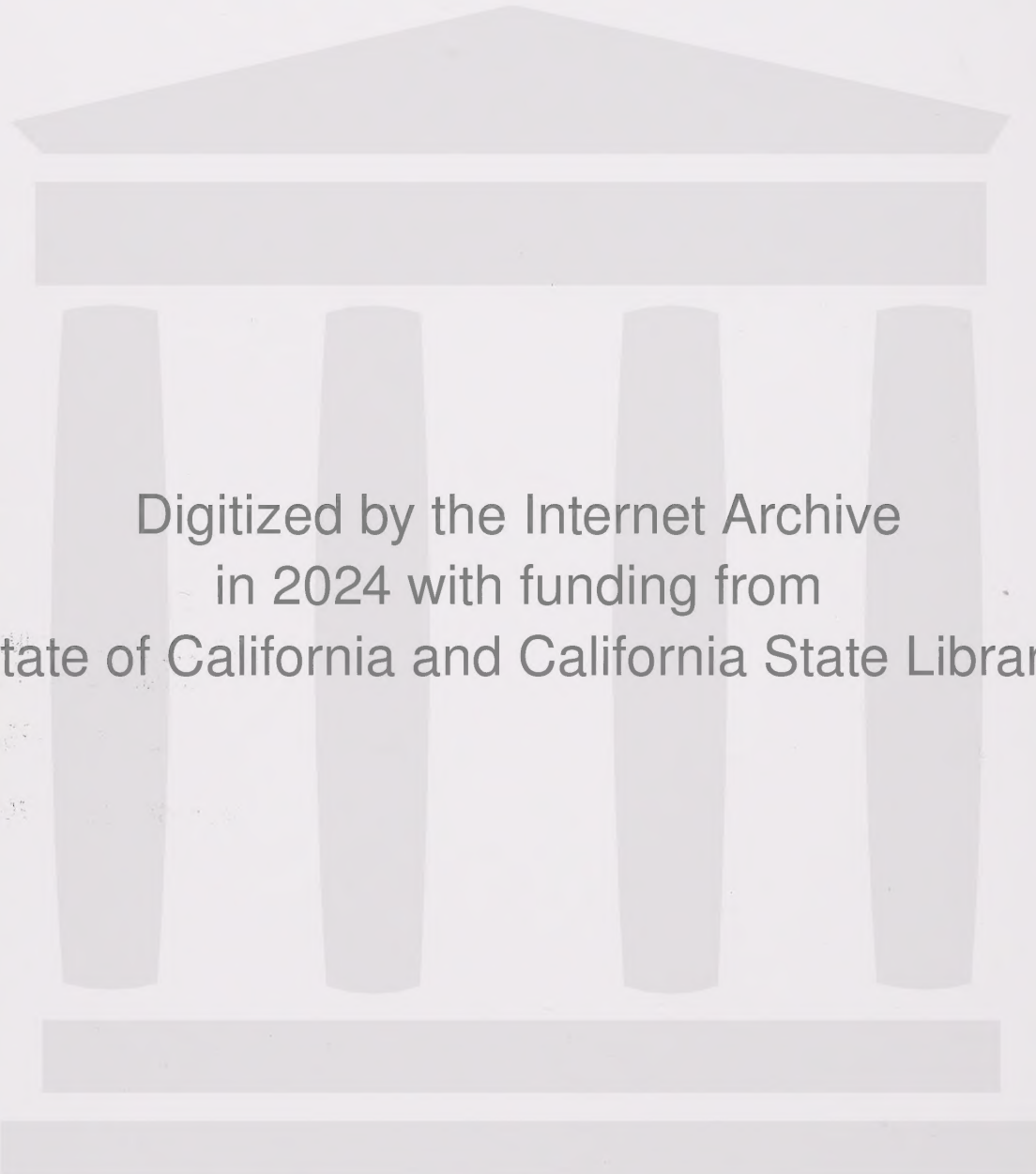


An Overview:

*100 Years of
Recreation and Parks
City of Los Angeles*





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2024 with funding from
State of California and California State Library

<https://archive.org/details/C124902768>



PROCLAMATION

THE LOS ANGELES CITY

Recreation and Parks Department

CENTENNIAL YEAR

WHEREAS IN 1889, THE LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISHED THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CITY'S FIRST PARKS WHICH INCLUDED THE ORIGINAL PUEBLO LANDS OF THE OLD PLAZA, ELYSIAN PARK AND PERSHING SQUARE; AND

WHEREAS THE LOS ANGELES CITY DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS HAS, FOR THE PAST 100 YEARS, FAITHFULLY AND OUTSTANDINGLY FULFILLED ITS CHARTER OBLIGATION OF PROVIDING CITIZENS WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENRICHING THEIR LIVES THROUGH LEISURE TIME PURSUITS; AND

WHEREAS THE RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT HAS EARNED A WELL-DESERVED REPUTATION OF BEING ONE OF THE NATION'S LEADERS IN THE RECREATION AND PARK MOVEMENT BY DEVELOPING POSITIVE AND INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS THAT HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO "MAKING L.A. A BETTER PLACE" FOR ALL;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOM BRADLEY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES, DO HEREBY JOIN WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNCIL IN PROCLAIMING 1989 AS "THE LOS ANGELES CITY RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT CENTENNIAL YEAR".

Tom Bradley
TOM BRADLEY
MAYOR

John Ferraro
JOHN FERRARO
PRESIDENT, LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

Alma Molina
Councilwoman 1st District

Joel Wachs
Councilman 2nd District

Joy News
Councilwoman 3rd District

Zel Yaroslowsky
Councilman 5th District

Ruth Galanter
Councilwoman 6th District

Emami Bernardi
Councilman 7th District

Robert Farrell
Councilman 8th District

Edith A. Findear
Councilman 9th District

John Kelle
Councilman 10th District

Marvin Sandoz
Councilman 11th District

Art B.
Councilman 12th District

Michael Lobo
Councilman 13th District

Robert Wilson
Councilman 14th District

Jan Milke Hous
Councilwoman 15th District



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
STUDIES LIBRARY

OCT 27 1989

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



MAYOR TOM BRADLEY

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

JOHN FERRARO

*President
Fourth District*

GLORIA MOLINA

First District

JOEL WACHS

Second District

JOY PICUS

Third District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

Fifth District

RUTH GALANTER

Sixth District

ERNANI BERNARDI

Seventh District

ROBERT FARRELL

Eighth District

GILBERT LINDSAY

Ninth District

NATE HOLDEN

Tenth District

MARVIN BRAUDE

Eleventh District

HAL BERNSON

Twelfth District

MICHAEL WOO

Thirteenth District

RICHARD ALATORRE

Fourteenth District

JOAN MILKE FLORES

Fifteenth District

JAMES KENNETH HAHN

City Attorney

RICK TUTTLE

City Controller

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

WILLIAM R. ROBERTSON

President

MARY D. NICHOLS**RICHARD J. RIORDAN****DENNIS R. LUNA**

Vice President

J. STANLEY SANDERS

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

JAMES E. HADAWAY

General Manager

GEORGIANN W. RUDDER

*Assistant General Manager,
Pacific Region*

JOEL BREITBART

*Assistant General Manager,
Planning and Development*

DAVE GONZALES

*Assistant General Manager,
Valley Region*

MARION SPENCE

*Assistant General Manager,
Metropolitan Region*

STEVE KLIPPEL

Director of Finance

SHELDON N. JENSEN

*Assistant General
Manager,
Griffith Region*



COVER — Family enjoys a stroll in Griffith Park during the late 1890s.



GREETINGS

As Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, I take great pleasure in congratulating the Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department as our city celebrates the Centennial Year of providing recreation and park service to its citizens. During the past one hundred years, the Department has grown tremendously from its humble inception in 1889 of three parks on pueblo lands to the present day's 300 parks and 150 recreational centers.

It is a fitting tribute to Recreation and Park employees that this Commemorative Yearbook tells the story of the department from its beginning. This story is an important one to tell and I commend each and every employee of the Department, both past and present, for their contributions to "Making L.A. a Better Place."

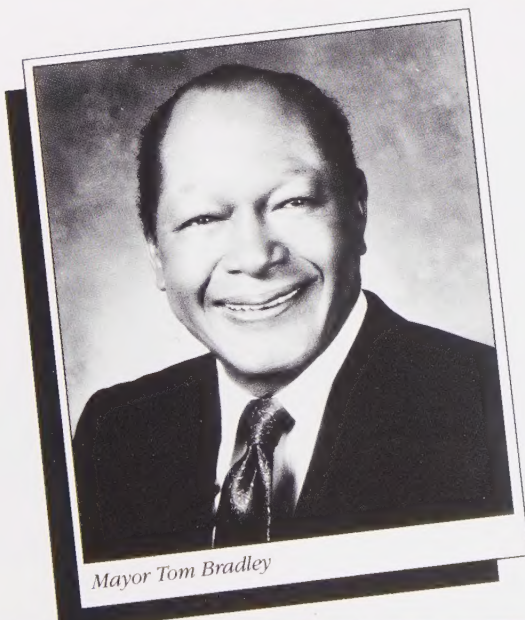
In my years as Mayor, I have had occasion to visit other cities and have observed the varying levels of public service provided. I am convinced that ours is one of the finest recreation and park departments in the country and I am proud that our city is blessed with such an outstanding group of dedicated workers.

May this Centennial Year be filled with enjoyable activities celebrating the Centennial that will long be remembered.

Sincerely,

Tom Bradley

TOM BRADLEY
MAYOR



Mayor Tom Bradley

COMMISSIONERS

DENNIS R. LUNA
MARY D. NICHOLS
RICHARD J. RIORDAN
WILLIAM R. ROBERTSON
J. STANLEY SANDERS

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



TOM BRADLEY
MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF
RECREATION AND PARKS

200 NO. MAIN ST.
13TH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CALIF. 90012
485-5508

JAMES E. HADAWAY
GENERAL MANAGER

September 16, 1988

GREETINGS

On behalf of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners, I am pleased to greet all of the Department employees, past and present, on the momentous occasion of the Department's 100-year anniversary. The past 100 years have seen the Department grow from its humble beginnings at the Plaza to over 300 parks.

The Board recognizes the great contributions that its employees have made during this evolution, both collectively and individually, and congratulates each of you for your efforts. This Department is one of a very few where an individual's work is immediately felt by the community that a specific park serves. The fine work done by our employees truly enable us to say "We Make LA a Better Place".

As you and subsequent employees peruse this Centennial Book, it is the Board's hope that the high standards set by you and your predecessors will not only be upheld, but surpassed.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF RECREATION AND
PARK COMMISSIONERS

William R. Robertson

WILLIAM R. ROBERTSON
President



Board of Commissioners—Front, J. Stanley Sanders, Mary D. Nichols,
Dennis R. Luna, Back: Richard J. Riordan, William R. Robertson

COMMISSIONERS

DENNIS R. LUNA
MARY D. NICHOLS
RICHARD J. RIORDAN
WILLIAM R. ROBERTSON
J. STANLEY SANDERS

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



TOM BRADLEY
MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF
RECREATION AND PARKS
200 NO. MAIN ST.
13TH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CALIF. 90012
485-

JAMES E. HADAWAY
GENERAL MANAGER

Dear Employees Past and Present:

The Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks has reached the centennial milestone of its colorful and historic existence. I am very pleased to greet all of our employees, both past and present, on this very important occasion in our history. In 100 years, the Department has grown from a humble beginning at the Plaza to one of the outstanding Recreation and Park Departments in the nation.

On this occasion, I would like to pay tribute to my predecessors, the late George Hjelte and William Frederickson Jr., for their roles in providing outstanding leadership as General Managers of this Department.

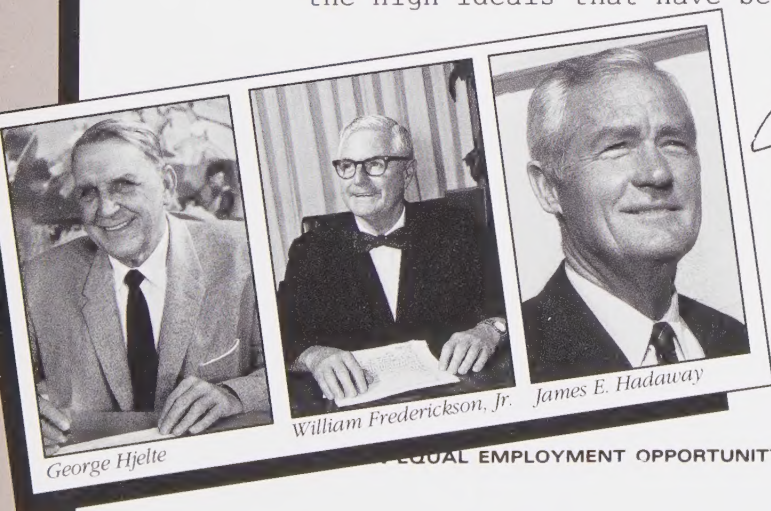
Our forerunners have provided a firm foundation upon which our current accomplishments rest. It is up to us to continue following in the footsteps of those who have blazed the trail.

I'd like to join with our Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners in congratulating each and every one of our employees on the Centennial year celebration, beginning with the 1989 Rose Parade.

As future generations of Department employees review this Centennial book and our accomplishments, it is my hope they will do so with an attitude of perpetuating the high ideals that have been set in the past.

Sincerely,

James E. Hadaway
General Manager



George Hjelte

William Frederickson, Jr.

James E. Hadaway

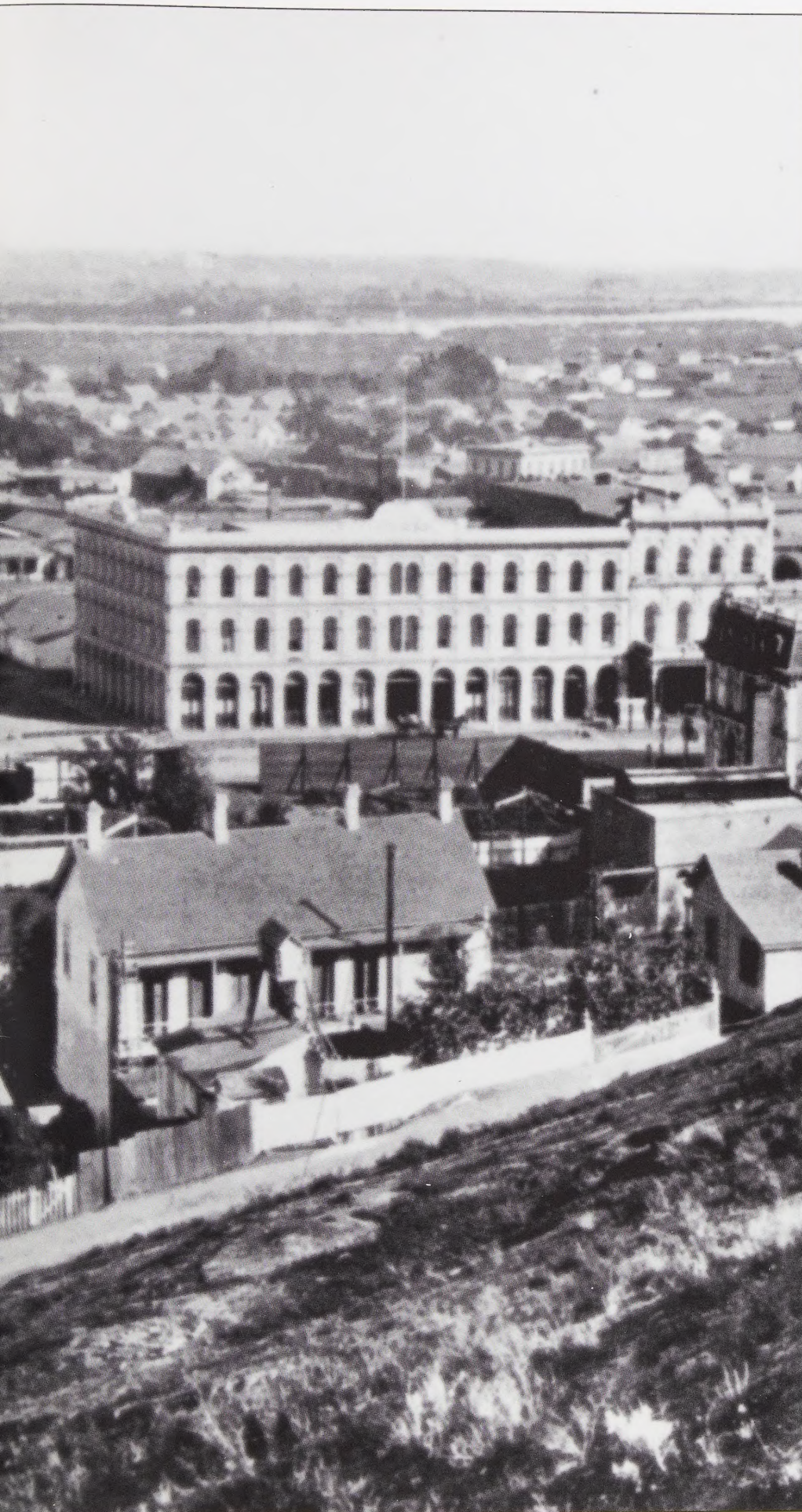
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER



*L.A.'s first park — La Reina de Los Angeles.
Pictured above in its earliest stages as a Plaza in
the center of the city in 1863 and later in 1875.*



La Reina de Los Angeles — 1876, was to become the humble beginnings of the L.A. park system.



Birth Of A Park System

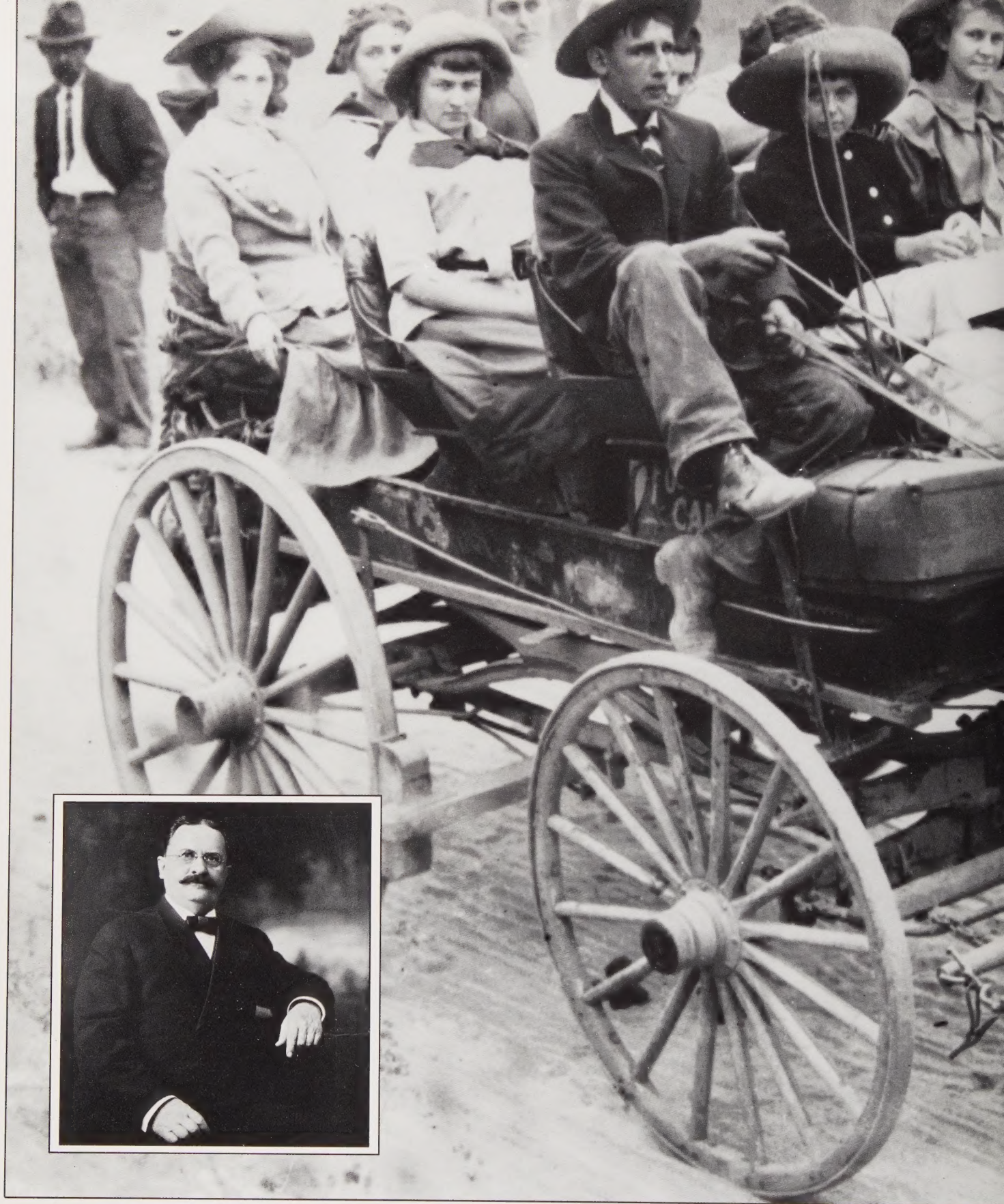
When Colonel Felipe de Neve, Governor of the Spanish province of Alta California, officially founded "La Reina de Los Angeles" in 1781, he created the Plaza in the center of the city. The Plaza became the first small unit in the present park system of Los Angeles.

1889 *From this humble beginning the Department of Parks was created in 1889 by the City Council. Four citizen members were appointed to a board with the mayor as ex-officio member and president.*

At that time the city owned several pieces of land which were believed suitable for park purposes. These properties were turned over to the newly-organized Park Department.

The greatest portion of the property was a part of the original pueblo lands known as Elysian Park today. Other parcels consisted of the Plaza and Pershing Square.

1890 *The City Council appropriated \$57,000 to the Park Department for the development of maintenance of parks. The population of Los Angeles was about 50,000.*



Family park outing in early 1900's. (Inset) Colonel Griffith J. Griffith, original donor of five square miles that would eventually become Griffith Park.



1896 *In a generous mood during Christmas of 1896, Colonel Griffith J. Griffith offered to donate five square miles of the rugged land of the Los Feliz Rancho to the City as a park.*

He said, "it must be made a place of recreation and rest for the masses, a resort for the rank and file, for the plain people.."

The Council couldn't envision a city park five miles from the center of the city. There was also doubt as to the wisdom of accepting a grant and removing the land from the tax rolls. Even after the Council accepted the millionaire's gift, legislators provided little in the way of a budget to protect the park.

In addition to Griffith Park, other parks under the jurisdiction of the new Park Department were the Plaza, Pershing Square, Elysian Park, East Los Angeles Park (Lincoln Park), Westlake (MacArthur Park), Echo Lake Park and Hollenbeck Park.

Lincoln was the most popular because of its large lake where boating was available. The park was the terminus of the railway line making it accessible to the public. Next to the park was the privately owned Selig Amusement Park with rides and carnival attractions and a small zoo. An excursion of families to Lincoln Park with a ride on the street car was the major event for many families on Sundays.

1904 *While these parks were available in the early years of the 20th century, there was no planned and supervised recreation activities in the parks. Children were forced to find their play on public streets and vacant lots, which were hardly suited for organized games.*

These conditions triggered a civic movement to officially establish a Playground Commission and Department. Their goal was "for the prevention and control of juvenile delinquency and to provide wholesome and constructive play and recreation for youth, in supervised playgrounds, as an alternative to play in the city streets." In 1904 the City



Top, family takes Sunday drive in Griffith Park during early 1900s.

Bottom, recreation program attracts large crowds at Echo Park Recreation Center in early 1900s.

Top, Playground Commission of 1912 off to visit the municipal camp in San Gabriel Canyon.

Bottom, early photo of Lafayette Park between Wilshire Boulevard and 6th Street with plenty of open space in those early days.



created the first municipal Playground Department in the United States. The newly-created Playground Commission hired Charles B. Raitt, a Stanford graduate, as its first director of the department. Under his leadership and the direction of the Commission, many bold measures and innovations were undertaken.

1905 The first playgrounds established were Violet Street (1905), Solano Playground (1907), Recreation Center at Ann Street near Main (1908), Echo Park (1907), Slauson Playground (1910) then at Fortuna and Hopper Streets, and Hazard (1911). Most of these were located within a radius of three miles from City Hall.

1913 Children's camps and family camps as a municipal recreation service were begun in 1913. A camp for boys was established in Redondo Beach. In 1914 Camp Seely in San Bernardino was the first family camp built, and in 1919 Camp Radford opened in the San Bernardino National Forest.

Camp High Sierra in the Mammoth region opened in 1921 to families and it has proved popular to this day with generations of the same family members attending the camp. The Griffith Park Boys Camp opened in 1925 and a year later Hollywoodland Girls Camp opened. The Department's camping program was so innovative that it was promptly copied by Oakland, Berkeley, Sacramento, Stockton, Long Beach and San Diego.



Young women enjoy game of baseball during outing to Echo Park in 1907.

*Top left, USC girls drill team parades
at Echo Park on May Day in 1912.*

*Far right, Playground Department
sponsors popular Christmas
Pageant at City Hall.*

*Below, trolly car travels along rails
to Fifth and Front Street in 1920s.*





Families enjoy boating on Echo Park Lake, one of the popular pastimes for a Sunday afternoon.



1915 By 1915 the Department saw the need for organized social activities for the public. It developed indoor recreation centers that included gymnasium, game rooms, stage for drama and other performances, food service facilities and showers. Community sings and talent shows were weekly events.

1923 The Department opened the first municipal grass greens golf course in Griffith Park in 1923 (later renamed Wilson Golf Course), and in 1924 Harding was built and officially opened.

Prior to 1923, golfers played on sand greens on a course called Riverside, built by the Department in 1900 with the help of volunteer golfers.

Today, the city operates 13 courses from the San Fernando Valley to the Harbor community. Rancho Park is the busiest municipal 18-hole course in the nation. More than one million rounds of golf are recorded annually on the city's courses, making it one of the largest golf systems in the country.

City voters passed a \$1.5 million bond issue for playgrounds in 1923.



Above, Recreation Director leads exercise class for women at recreation center in 1930s.





1925 *This was a milestone year marking the progress of public recreation in the City. A new charter drafted by a Board of Freeholders was approved by the voters. The Charter created a Department of Parks and a Department of Playground and Recreation.*

They were granted a fixed annual allocation of funds for their support—seven cents per hundred dollars of assessed property valuation for Parks and four cents per hundred for Recreation. (Later increased to thirteen cents when the Departments of Parks and Recreation were consolidated.)

Additionally, the charter granted the departments and their commissions control of their own funds. Each was governed by a citizen commission of five members.

The Playground and Recreation Department played a key role in the development of the city's beaches. With the acquisition of Venice Beach in 1925, the Department turned a barren, rocky beach into the wide expanse it is today.

In 1928, more than 1 million cubic yards of sand was dredged from the Los Angeles harbor at San Pedro. This material formed Cabrillo Beach.



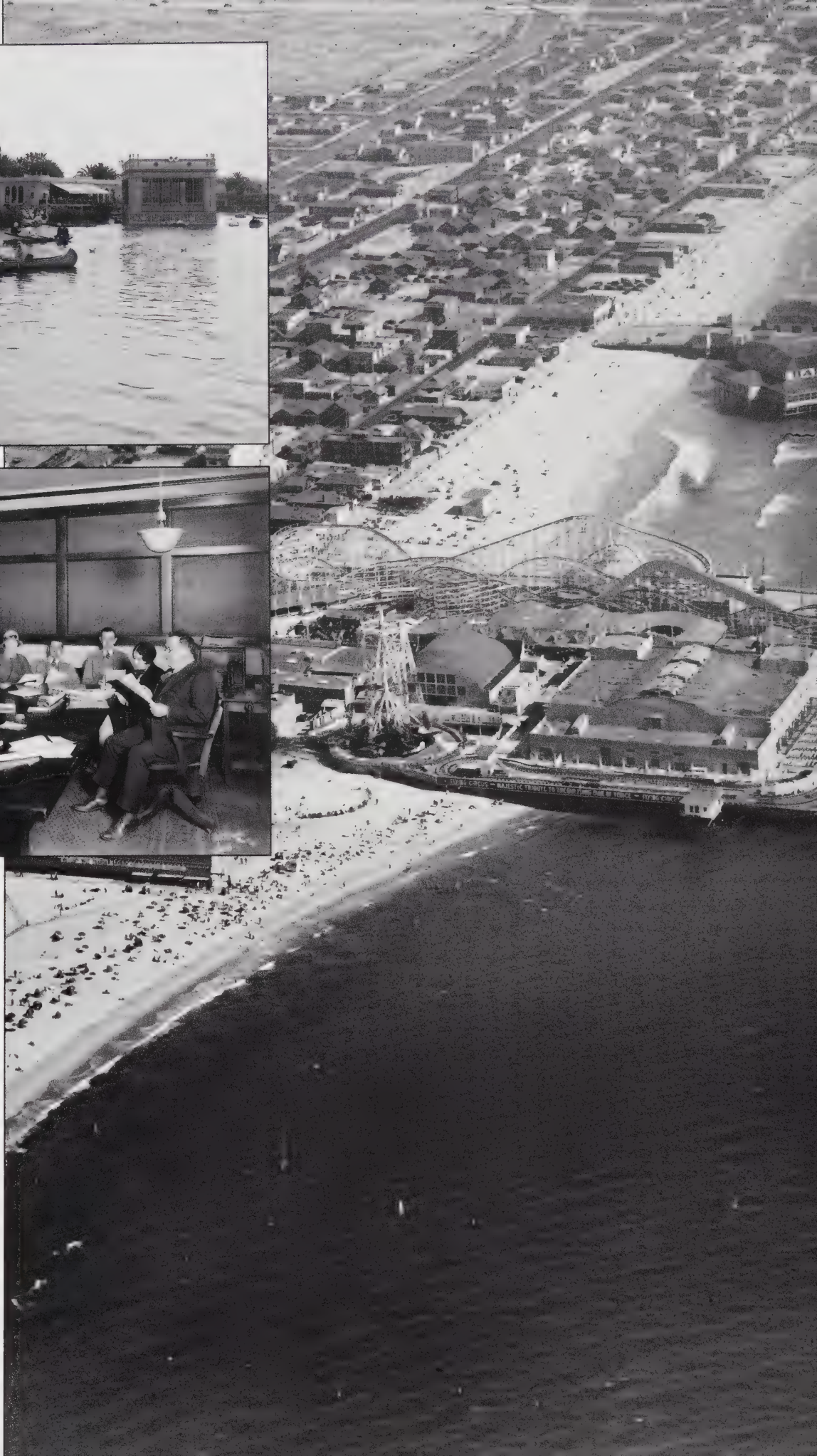
Left, aerial photo in 1930 of Cabrillo Beach with Cabrillo Beach bath house in left foreground.


Above, Los Angeles Playground Band is pictured on steps of City Hall in 1927.



Top, boating on Westlake, now called MacArthur Park Lake, has been popular through the years.

Bottom, Superintendent of Parks Frank Shearer and members of the Parks Commission meet in 1927 at City Hall.



An aerial photograph of Venice Beach in 1926. In the foreground, a large building with a sign that reads "FUN HOUSE" is visible. To its right, a roller coaster track winds through the area. In the background, a long pier extends into the ocean, and a large ballroom is situated near the shore. The beach and ocean are visible in the upper portion of the image.

1926 George Hjelte was hired as the first General Manager of the Playground and Recreation Department. Hjelte, who was Superintendent of Playgrounds for the City of Berkeley, was selected after a nation-wide search for a leader. It didn't take him long to establish the reputation as the dean of American city recreation administrators.

Under his leadership, recreation programs proliferated and Los Angeles became a national leader in the public recreation movement. Chorales, community sings, talent tryouts, choir concerts, Christmas pageants on the steps of City Hall, children's pageants in the libraries, May Day celebrations in the parks, sports, citywide demonstrations in the Coliseum, aquatic spectacles in the Olympic Swim Stadium, a municipal band—all of these and more—were organized with

Aerial view in 1926 looking at Venice Beach with roller coaster and fun house in foreground on pier and ballroom in background.

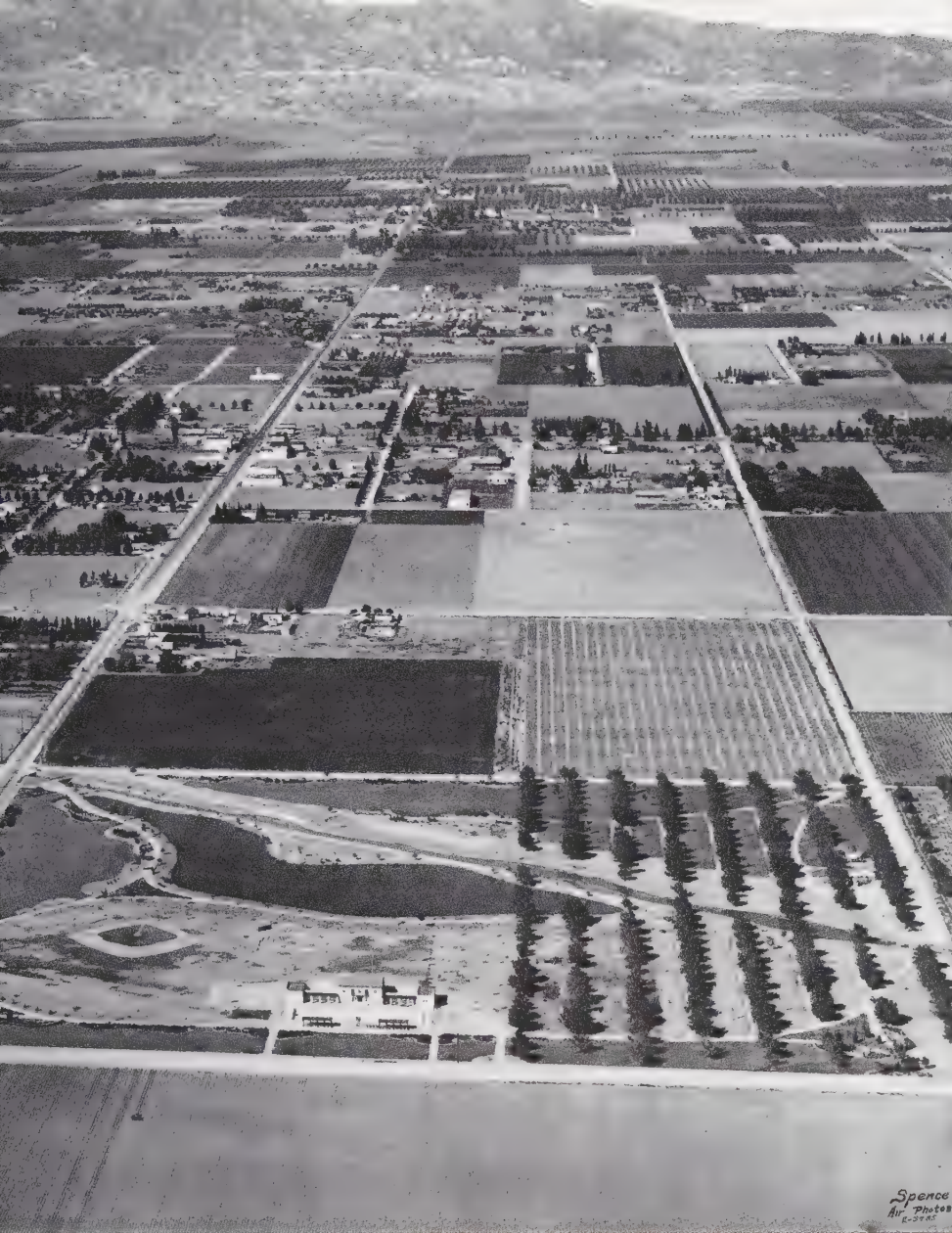


Top left, Model T Fords jam roads at Griffith Park in 1930. Top right, WPA workers construct roadway in Griffith park as part of federal government work program following the Depression.

Above, Women's bathing suits of 1935 provide sharp contrast to today's styles.

Right, "huddling up" under the leadership of a City recreation director.





Spence
Air Photos
K-5757



volunteer involvement, but directed by Department staff.

Hjelte remained as General Manager of the Department 33 years until 1962 when he retired.

1930's During the depression years of the early 1930's, revenues of the city declined. Reductions in budgets for operation suffered, and city employees salaries were uniformly reduced by 10 percent.

Congress created the Federal World Progress Administration (WPA) in 1933 under which funding was made available to state, county and municipal governments to hire unemployed persons at minimal wages for work services. The Department of Parks and Playground and Recreation benefited from this source of assistance. Routine maintenance of grounds and buildings increased. Many WPA workers offered recreation skills that added to expansion of programs at recreation centers.

Attendance of the public at all facilities increased dramatically during this period.

Above, Aerial view of Reseda Park in 1932 looking at the open spaces in the West San Fernando Valley.

Left, Verdugo Hills pool was one of early pools built in wide open spaces of the Valley.

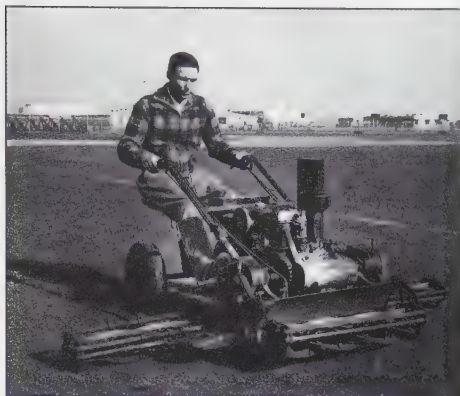


Young ball players emulate their major league heroes during fun baseball game at local park.



Children help war effort during defense aluminum drive at Poinsettia Recreation Center in 1941





1941-1945 *Parks and playgrounds, as well as the public schools, were designated places of refuge in an emergency. Several recreation directors were assigned duties in charge of mobilization of volunteers in the Civil Defense Corps.*

1947 *After the war ended, voters approved a bond issue for parks and playgrounds in the amount of \$12.5 million. In 1947, a charter amendment was proposed to consolidate the Park Department and Playground and Recreation Department. Voters approved the merger by a large majority and the Department of Recreation and Parks was born in a time of expanding development of both departments. The combined Departments were allocated a total of 13 cents per \$100 of assessed property evaluation.*

The professional accomplishments of George Hjelle during his years as General Manager from 1926 through 1962 when he retired are numerous. During a third of a century, he was the person responsible for the amazing development of the City Recreation and Park system.

From two small, separate departments in 1926, he developed the consolidated department into a highly organized and efficient entity, admired and copied in all parts of the country.



Top left, Department's Traveling Circus proved to be one of the top attractions for children from 1940s to early 1980s.

Top right, maintenance worker mows grass at Rancho Cienega Recreation Center in 1940s.

Bottom, Santa Monica Boulevard car advertises Playground and Recreation Department national tennis tournament at Griffith Playground.



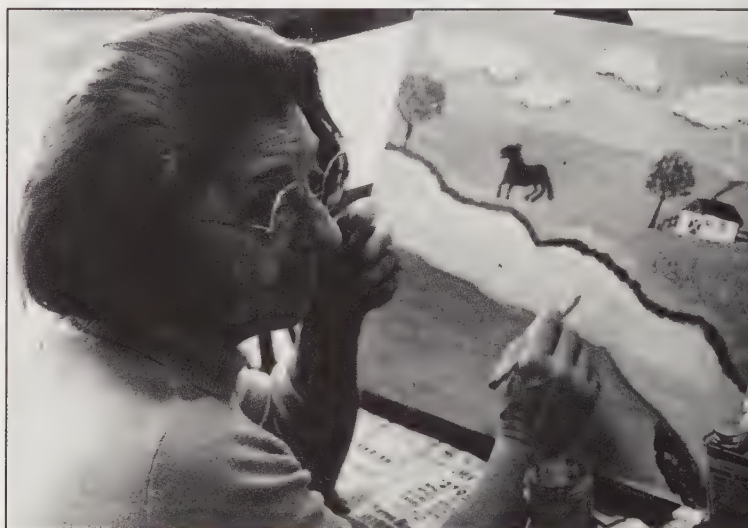
Construction of Griffith Observatory is underway. The popular astronomical facility was officially dedicated during ceremonies on the front lawn in 1935.



Top, Dancers perform on stage during celebration of Cinco de Mayo.

Right, young girls practice ballet at recreation center class. Far right, art class proves a stimulating challenge for senior citizens.

Below left, Park Rangers give nature talk to young people in Griffith Park. Below right, Golf professional shows young golfer proper grip during junior program at golf courses.





Modelled action provides positive activities for youngsters at city parks

Along with others, he helped create the Coliseum complex, including the swimming stadium from 1932 Olympics and the Sports Arena. By spearheading the development of the Los Angeles Zoo, he helped place the city in the forefront of cities operating major zoological gardens.

1957 Voters approved a \$39.5 million bond issue for parks, playgrounds, recreation centers and beaches by a majority of 85 percent. It was the largest bond issue ever voted by any city in the United States for such purposes.

1962 After George Hjelte retired, William Frederickson Jr. was appointed General Manager of the Department. He served in that capacity for 13 of his 45 years with the Department before retiring in 1975.

During his years at the helm, the Department expended an estimated \$40 million in capital improvements, as well as acquiring some 2,200 acres of valuable park land.

1962-1975 Among some of the accomplishments under Frederickson:

Construction of the \$10 million Los Angeles Zoo; development of Travel Town; adoption of the Quimby and dwelling unit construction tax which meant funds for development of additional parks;

Acquisition of land for Westwood Park; development of Wattles Park and Japanese Teahouse; opening of the Convention Center; acquisition of Bee Canyon (O'Melveny Park); overseeing



Top, Coach Barn is part of historical collection at Banning Residence Museum in Wilmington.

Bottom, Drum Barracks is former Civil War barracks for Union troops.



Elephant keeps cool during hot summer days at Los Angeles Zoo in Griffith Park.



Cabrillo Marine Museum in San Pedro gives visitors insight into marine life in Southern California waters.



Griffith Park Boys Camp provides young boys with healthy outdoor environment in heart of the city.



Greek Theater in Griffith Park offers outstanding musical attractions in amphitheater.

such Federal programs as Emergency Employment Act and Comprehensive Employment and Training Act; playing a major role in the Department taking over management of El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park;

Development of the Griffith Park master plan; construction of Venice and Cabrillo fishing piers; development of parks under power line rights of way; construction of Peck Community building and expansion of the municipal sports and aquatics programs, as well as implementation of golf and tennis reservation systems.

Special Facilities and Museums

Special facilities such as museums and historic sites have been an important part of the department for many years. Just about all of the museums came from humble beginnings.

More than one million visitors a year come to the Los Angeles Zoo, one of the leading zoological facilities in the world. Griffith Observatory has been attracting millions of visitors since 1935 when it was first opened.

The Greek Theater, also a gift to the city from Col. Griffith, has been providing outstanding entertainment to theater-goers since 1930.

El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park marks the site of the original Spanish pueblo which grew into the City of Los Angeles.

In 1934, Cabrillo Marine Museum got its start in an unused room in the public bathhouse on Sunset Pier in Venice Beach and later moved to Cabrillo Beach. Today's museum is a modern, attractive hands-on facility in San Pedro.

The Maritime Museum, housed in the one-time Municipal Ferry Building, captures the maritime history of the harbor area. Banning Museum, in Wilmington, is a mid-1800 period man-



Plaza in El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park is site of city's first park.



"Graffiti Doctors" eliminate graffiti at park as part of Department's crackdown on defacing facilities.



Municipal Sports baseball program attracts large numbers of participants.



Above, Tahitian dancers entertain audiences during Lotus Festival at Echo Park.

Below, "Playground Doctor" repairs swing at one of city's parks.

sion which depicts the architecture and lifestyles of that era.

In Griffith Park, Travel Town features antique and modern types of transportation equipment, from steam locomotives to aircraft and old fire engine exhibits.

Still another museum is Drum Barracks in Wilmington. Built during the Civil War, it is the sole surviving structure of early California government headquarters in that era.

1975 James E. Hadaway was appointed General Manager, succeeding Frederickson. With the support of an active Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners, Hadaway and his staff continued to expand and reach out to a new generation of patrons in the late 1970s and 1980s.

During the first 12 years under Hadaway, the Department's budget increased from \$32 million in 1975-76 to \$78 million in 1988-89. Also during this period the Department experienced an unprecedented investment in capital projects and expansion of facilities. State Bond Issues and federal funds provided new parks and new community buildings.

The Department weathered the storm of budget cutbacks as a result of Proposition 13 and has slowly bounced back.

In recent years the Department has adopted such new activities as latchkey programs for youngsters whose parents work during the day; special programs for the physically challenged; anti-drug programs for youths under the Dickerson Rangers' "Just Say No" program; and providing nutritious lunches to seniors at community centers and delivering meals to the elderly who are confined to their homes.



Top, Maritime Museum in San Pedro features maritime history of Southern California.

Bottom, children participate in costume parade for Feria de Los Ninos in Hollenbeck Park.



Youngsters enjoy fishing off barge in Pacific Ocean.



Highlights

The Urban Impact Parks program was funded in 1988 in an all-out department effort to elevate the standards of the city's older parks. The goal is to make them safe, attractive and well maintained while providing quality programs.

A highly successful "Playground Doctor" program was inaugurated to make the city's aging play equipment safer for its young patrons, and a "Graffiti Exterminator" program has been established to eradicate graffiti at parks.

The Department's Excellence Teams project, designed to improve the productivity level of employees, made great strides and was widely acclaimed by the mayor.

Under Hadaway's direction, the vision statement — "We Make L.A. a Better Place" — was established and a new logo was selected.

The general manager established a RAP day, a program where timely information is disseminated to employees at all levels as quickly as possible. He also established a video unit in the Public Relations Division, enabling the staff to produce a variety of films for employees, ranging from training to year-end highlights.

Computerization and modernization of the Department's accounting system was established under Hadaway's leadership, a program that enabled the Department to operate its financial business more efficiently.



Top, Senior citizens enjoy nutritious luncheons at a number of senior citizen facilities throughout the city.

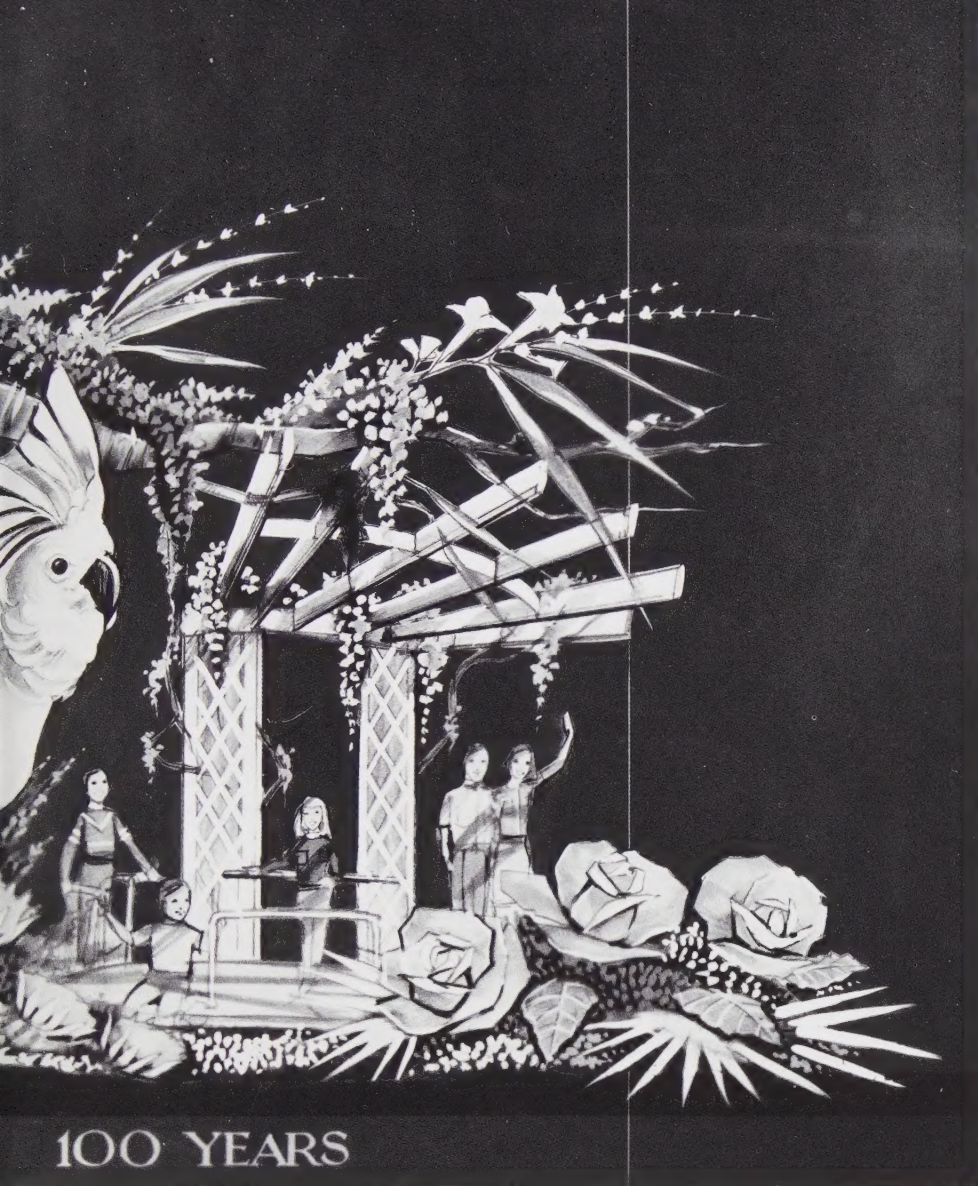
Bottom, Department's Playground Equipment Doctor, Graffiti Doctor and Green Crew all contribute to making L.A. parks safe, attractive and well-maintained



Eric Dickerson, leader of "Dickerson's Rangers Just Say No to Drugs" program, tells club members about dangers of drug abuse.



Directors assist youngsters during latchkey program at Loren Miller Recreation Center.



Other accomplishments: obtaining funds from the Amateur Athletic Foundation to establish new facilities for the physically challenged; reorganization of the Department's top management and decentralization into four regions; establishment of Operation "Go Golf", a program designed to reduce the time of playing an 18-hole round of golf; and implementing a highly successful affirmative action program.

Conclusion

During the past century, Recreation and Parks has continued moving forward to meet the challenge of providing recreation and park services to young and old. In the next 100 years, the Department's goals will be to continue providing the finest possible recreation and park services to "Make L.A. a Better Place" for all.



Artist rendering of Department's float in Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena on January 2, 1989, calling attention to 100 years of service.

New play equipment replaces older equipment at MacArthur Park as well as at many other parks in the system.

*Department of Recreation and Parks
City of Los Angeles*

OPERATING STATEMENT

For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1988

REVENUES

Charter Appropriations And Assistance From General Fund

| | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Mayor/Council Appropriations | \$51,675,806 | |
| Sewer Construction and Maintenance Fund | 42,000 | |
| Special Appropriations | 241,403 | \$51,959,209 |

Direct Income

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Golf | \$8,716,004 | |
| Zoo | 3,568,817 | |
| Parks | 1,535,984 | |
| Camps | 906,300 | |
| Recreation Centers | 952,738 | |
| Swimming Pools | 704,979 | |
| Tennis | 569,656 | |
| Observatory | 667,936 | |
| Miscellaneous | 896,321 | |
| Museums | 26,348 | |
| Oil Resources | 195,838 | |
| Interest Income | <u>707,588</u> | <u>\$19,448,509</u> |

| | | |
|---------------------|--|--------------|
| TOTAL REVENUE | | \$71,407,718 |
|---------------------|--|--------------|

OPERATING EXPENSE

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Salaries and Wages | \$63,474,972 |
| Printing and Binding | 286,021 |
| Traveling Expense | 8,726 |
| Contractual Services | 866,783 |
| Field Equipment Expense | 623,454 |
| Maintenance Materials, Supplies, and Services | 4,212,180 |
| Transportation Expense | 105,311 |
| Uniforms | 26,260 |
| Feed and Grain | 480,371 |
| Camp Food | 158,639 |
| Office and Administrative Expense | 261,467 |
| Operating Supplies and Repairs | 706,398 |
| Taxes | 86,564 |
| Other | 124,802 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| * TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE | \$71,421,948 |
|---------------------------------|--------------|

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| TOTAL REVENUE IN EXCESS OF OPERATING EXPENSE | <u>(\$14,230)</u> |
|--|-------------------|

*Does Not Reflect Expenditures Capitalized to Asset Accounts
in the Following Amounts

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Land | \$191,000 |
| Improvements to Land | 766,695 |
| Buildings—Various Facilities | 60,663 |
| Zoo Animals | 153,710 |
| Equipment | 2,249,321 |
| Construction in Progress | 5,891,627 |
| | <u>\$9,313,016</u> |

**Los Angeles City
Recreation and Parks
Department**

200 N. Main Street
Thirteenth Floor
City Hall East
Los Angeles, California 90012

**Prepared by
Public Information
Division**

Al Goldfarb,
Director of Public Information

**Max Gould
and Bob Nelson**
Department Photographers

Designed by
Larry Brown
Graphic Design

Printed by the
City of Los Angeles
Printing Division



(Editor's Note: Text prepared by
Public Information Director
Al Goldfarb. The author used two
books by the late George Hjelte as
references, The Development of a
City's Public Recreation Services,
1904-1962 and Footprints in the
Parks.)

A special thanks to John H. Ward,
retired Assistant General Manager
of the Valley Region for his
invaluable assistance in the
development of this project.

U.C. BERKELEY LIBRARIES



C124902768

